

Appl. No. 10/624,782
Amdt. dated September 23, 2005
Reply to Office action of March 24, 2005

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A voting tracking and reporting system comprising:
- an acquisition and processing device, the acquisition and processing device configured to
 - acquire data representing votes, ~~and~~
 - encrypt the data representing votes,
 - communicate with a data communication network, and
 - transmit encrypted vote data via the data communication network in response to a request that is received from the data communication network; and
 - a collection and processing system connected to the data communication network, the collection and processing system configured to
 - receive data from and transmit data to the data communication network,
 - decrypt vote data received from the acquisition and processing device,
 - manipulate the vote data to determine characteristics of the vote data,
 - store the vote data and characteristics, and
 - transmit vote data and characteristics via the data communication network in response to authorized requests.

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- 2.(Canceled) The voting tracking and reporting system of claim 1 wherein the acquisition and processing device is configured to transmit data representing votes to the data communication network responsive to requests received from the data communication network.
- 3.(Original) The voting tracking and reporting system of claim 1 wherein the acquisition and processing device is configured to transmit data representing votes to the data communication network upon detection of a predetermined event.
4. (Original) The voting tracking and reporting system of claim 3 wherein the predetermined event is acquisition of data representing votes.
- 5.(Canceled) The voting tracking and reporting system of claim 1 wherein the acquisition and processing device encrypts the vote data.
6. (Original) The voting tracking and reporting system of claim 1 wherein the acquisition and processing device communicates with the data communication network via cellular telephone communication.

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7. (Original) The voting tracking and reporting system of claim 1 wherein the acquisition and processing device communicates with the data communication network via wireless data network communication.

8. (Original) The voting tracking and reporting system of claim 5 wherein the acquisition and processing device communicates with the data communication network via cellular telephone communication.

9. (Original) The voting tracking and reporting system of claim 5 wherein the acquisition and processing device communicates with the data communication network via wireless data network communication.